

MAR 13 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND
THE COLLEGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE TO ESTABLISH A WORKING
GROUP TO EXAMINE THE EXPANSION OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
INSTRUCTION THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Constitution recognizes Hawaiian
2 as an official language of Hawaii and further recognizes that
3 study of the Hawaiian language ought to be promoted and
4 protected within the context of traditional and customary
5 rights; and
6

7 WHEREAS, in 1996, the Legislature identified "a need to
8 establish a center for excellence at the University of Hawaii at
9 Hilo campus that will conduct all its business in the Hawaiian
10 language, and that will serve as a focal point for the State's
11 efforts to revitalize the Hawaiian language through teacher
12 training, graduate study of Hawaiian, community outreach, and
13 planning for general education in Hawaiian for future
14 generations of Hawaiian speakers"; and
15

16 WHEREAS, legislative consideration of the Hawaiian language
17 in 1996 has led to further action taken by the Legislature in
18 1997, 2001, and 2006 to protect and expand the role of Hawaiian
19 language in the State; and
20

21 WHEREAS, legislative accomplishments relating to the
22 College of Hawaiian Language include the establishment of a
23 partnership with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the
24 non-profit organization, 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Inc., which allowed the
25 College to commence instruction without requiring additional
26 funds from the State; and
27

28 WHEREAS, since its founding, the College of Hawaiian
29 Language has provided entirely in the Hawaiian language a
30 preschool through twelfth grade laboratory school, a teacher
31 certification program, two Master's degrees, and doctoral
32 program; and
33



1 WHEREAS, the College of Hawaiian Language programs on
2 Native American language are the first of their kind in the
3 nation, and have drawn significant national and international
4 attention to Hawaii; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the importance of the College of Hawaiian Language
7 extends beyond academic programs to include crucial resource
8 support to the Department of Education in meeting state
9 constitutional mandates relative to the promotion and use of the
10 Hawaiian language in state public and charter schools; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the College of Hawaiian Language provides the
13 majority of teaching materials through Hawaiian used in state
14 public and charter schools, expanded contemporary vocabulary in
15 Hawaiian needed for instructional purposes in these schools,
16 online dictionary and primary source materials through the
17 Ulukau online Hawaiian electronic library, and other services
18 including Hawaiian language assessments, teacher in-service
19 training, and parent workshops crucial to the success of
20 preschool through twelfth grade education; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the College of Hawaiian Language and its preschool
23 through doctoral level programs operated entirely in the
24 Hawaiian language has drawn much attention in the State, nation,
25 and internationally with requests for support, services, and
26 courses to be provided to communities; and

27
28 WHEREAS, the standard structure of the University of Hawaii
29 System includes barriers to the maximum use of the College of
30 Hawaiian Language by the University of Hawaii System, its
31 faculty and students, and the general public to address the
32 Hawaiian language needs of the State; and

33
34 WHEREAS, that standard structure of the University of
35 Hawaii System also includes barriers to maximum use of the
36 College of Hawaiian Language to serve the national and
37 international needs of other indigenous peoples; and

38
39 WHEREAS, the standard structure of the University of Hawaii
40 System, which mirrors in large part equivalent systems of
41 English language medium higher education institution in the



1 other forty-nine states, is not designed for a state with two
2 official languages; and
3

4 WHEREAS, international structural models already exist for
5 integrating into a large university system a smaller second
6 official language and higher education through it that may well
7 be adapted within the University of Hawaii system as a means to
8 make maximum use of the College of Hawaiian Language; and
9

10 WHEREAS, over the past several months the administration of
11 the College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawaii at Hilo,
12 and University of Hawaii System have met to discuss how to
13 better form the College of Hawaiian Language into a unique
14 Hawaiian model to expand services that meet state Hawaiian
15 language needs; and
16

17 WHEREAS, at a meeting held on February 26, 2015, the
18 Director of the College of Hawaiian Language, Chancellor of the
19 University of Hawaii at Hilo, Vice President for Academic
20 Affairs of the University of Hawaii System, and President of the
21 University of Hawaii System agreed that a formal study was
22 necessary to determine how to restructure the College of
23 Hawaiian Language to better serve state needs; and
24

25 WHEREAS, after reviewing the history of the College of
26 Hawaiian Language as an entity established and codified in law
27 by the Legislature, it was determined that the Legislature
28 should take the lead in requesting and reviewing a formal study
29 to restructure the College of Hawaiian Language; now, therefore,
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,
33 that the University of Hawaii Office of the President and
34 College of Hawaiian Language are requested to establish a
35 working group to examine the expansion of Hawaiian language
36 instruction throughout the University of Hawaii System; and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the working
39 group is to research and report to the Legislature:
40

- 41 (1) The current structure and pedagogy of the College of
42 Hawaiian Language;



(2) Recent and current trends in student-driven initiatives to learn Hawaiian; and

(3) Specific strategies to enhance and expedite Hawaiian language instruction on the different University of Hawaii campuses and throughout the University of Hawaii System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to include:

(1) The President of the University of Hawaii, or the President's designee;

(2) The Vice President for Academic Affairs, or the Vice President's designee;

(3) The Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, or the Chancellor's designee;

(4) The Director of the College of Hawaiian Language, or the Director's designee; and

(5) One representative from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group dissolve on June 30, 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, President of the University of Hawaii System, Vice President of Academic Affairs of the University of Hawaii System, Chancellor of the University



1 of Hawaii at Hilo, and Director of the College of Hawaiian
2 Language.

3
4
5

OFFERED BY:

Ikei Egl

El Niño
D.C.D.J.
for the

Grace L. Inoué

Chun & Miki

John Meranda H.

Michelle Tadam

John M.

Miki

Simon Kakele

~~Simon Kakele~~

Jim
M. M. M.

Will Gyo

Brean Hart

Andy de Bel

James H. St.

Erzanne Chun Oakland

John

John Galt
Donald D.

